

**SEMINOLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Resolution - Proclaiming October 5th through 11th, 2008 as "Mental Illness Awareness Week"

**DEPARTMENT:** County Manager Office

**DIVISION:**

**AUTHORIZED BY:** Cindy Coto

**CONTACT:** Sabrina O'Bryan

**EXT:** 7224

**MOTION/RECOMMENDATION:**

(Resolution to be presented outside the Board of County Commissioners meeting) Adopt a Resolution proclaiming October 5th through 11th, 2008 as "Mental Illness Awareness Week".

County-wide

Cynthia Coto

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**BACKGROUND:**

Resolution attached.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Board adopt a Resolution proclaiming October 5th through 11th, 2008 as "Mental Illness Awareness Week".

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Resolution

<b>Additionally Reviewed By:</b> No additional reviews
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**RESOLUTION**

**THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SEMINOLE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ON THE 23<sup>rd</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER, A.D., 2008.**

**WHEREAS**, mental health is essential to health, every individual, family and community must understand that mental health is an essential part of overall health and we must increase suicide prevention by reducing the stigma of seeking care; and

**WHEREAS**, it is essential to eliminate disparities in mental health by promoting well-being for all, regardless of race, ethnicity, language, place of residence or age and ensure equity of access, delivery of services and improvement of outcomes, through public and private partnership to ensure culturally competent care to all; and

**WHEREAS**, consumers and families must have the necessary information and the opportunity to exercise choice over their care decisions, including individualized plans of care, expanded supported employment, enhanced rights protections, better criminal and juvenile justice diversion and re-entry programs, improve access to housing, and end chronic homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, every individual must have the opportunity for early and appropriate mental health screening, assessment and referral to treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, adults and children with mental illness must have ready access to evidence-based best treatments, services and supports leading to recovery; and

**WHEREAS**, the mental health system must inform consumers, providers and public policy with quality, accessible and accountable information supporting improved care and information dissemination.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of County Commissioners of Seminole County, Florida do hereby proclaim October 5-11, 2008 as

**“Mental Illness Awareness Week”**

to increase public awareness of severe mental illness and in so doing to promote greater access to effective treatments for those who suffer from the potentially disabling symptoms of these disorders.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution be spread upon the Official Minutes by the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Seminole County, Florida.

**ADOPTED** this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September, A.D., 2008.

**ATTEST:**

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Maryanne Morse, Clerk to the  
Board of County Commissioners  
in and for the County of Seminole,  
State of Florida

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Brenda Carey, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners